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DIVISION OF  
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CABLE ADDRESS  
ADVOCATE

June 13, 1990

Howard A. Lemm  
Deputy State Director  
For Mineral Resources  
Bureau of Land Management  
Utah State Office  
324 South State  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Dear Howard:

As I mentioned in our phone conversation of Friday, June 8, it was a pleasure meeting with you, Jim Parker, Deane Zeller, Randy Heuscher and other members of the State and District BLM offices. Russ and I very much appreciated the time you all devoted to the meeting and your interest in exploring the exchange proposal.

As promised, Russ and I have put together a list of general and specific issues which must be addressed in exploring and carrying out an exchange of Reilly's federal leases on the Salt Flats for leases on the Pilot Valley Playa. Please review the list; we hope that you will supplement it with any issues or ideas we have not addressed.

1. Research the land records and other records to determine who might have rights to the surface, the locatable minerals and the leasable minerals on all of the property which might be part of the lease swap. This includes the Pilot Valley, the surrounding areas, the former bombing range adjacent to the Pilot Valley, and the necessary right-of-way between the Pilot Valley and the Reilly-Wendover operations.

2. Determine what is necessary to temporarily protect all of the required properties while the analysis is underway and what is necessary to secure the properties once the plan is ready for implementation. This would include an evaluation of all legal requirements for environmental assessment if any are necessary.

3. Conduct a survey to determine whether there are minerals in the Pilot Valley which are commercially viable. The survey would involve an assessment of the volume of minerals which could be extracted given the nature of the soil, subsurface location, terrain, etc.

4. Determine what would be necessary to mine the Pilot Valley. It would require new ditches, pipelines, etc. Attempt to evaluate comprehensively the requirements and their costs.

5. We will also have to evaluate the process for making the new mining site available to Reilly. Could we undertake a direct swap of leases? Would it require a process of competitive bid for the new leases? Would there be a requirement for congressional action?

6. Analyze the properties under jurisdiction of the Department of Defense to the south of I-80 and Reilly-Wendover to determine what would be necessary to make use of the land for various purposes, i.e., limited access for mineral withdrawal ditches.

7. As part of the process of protecting the Flats, we should consider other measures including positive barriers between the Flats and the areas being mined. These could include walls or other impervious barriers. We should also consider the potential of employing reverse gradients. Also review the potential for reclamation by reintroducing the salt from Reilly's evaporation ponds to the Flats.



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When you have had a chance to review and add to the above, please contact me immediately so that we may discuss how best to address these issues. Russ and I look forward to working with you and Randy in this endeavor. Again, thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christopher J. Kersting".

Christopher J. Kersting

cc: Jim Parker  
Deane Zeller  
Randy Heuscher  
Steve Brooks  
✓ Dianne Nielson